

HOME NEWS

—It is reported that several thousand logs were carried over the boom at Ronceverte by the ice.

—The Crummett building was knocked down to E. H. Smith, agent for his father, Capt Smith, at \$750. The sale was by way of public auction under a deed of trust.

—Mr. James Auldridge and son, George, have recently completed neat and convenient improvements on their farm near Edray; a dwelling, granary, lumber-house, woodshed, and stable.

—When you come to Marlinton to buy goods, go straight to S. W. Holt's store. He will be expecting you, and has taken special pains to have everything in stock you want to buy at the right kind of prices.

—The apple trees first planted about the Drennan dwelling, near Edray, and on the river near Geo. Gibson's, were carried by Laurence Drinnin from the old fields in Hardy County, a few miles north of Moorefield.

—The Pine Grove school-house, now occupied by Superintendent Barlow's school, took fire a few days since. By prompt and effective application of snowballs and water the threatening flames were subdued before much damage was done.

—It is gratifying to observe the progress already made in opening a road from Levi Gray's to Pleasant Hill, in the Brushy Lick flatwoods. The grade is easy, and when widened will be much used by persons coming to Marlinton from Poage's Lane and beyond.

—The Circuit Clerk, Mr. J. H. Patterson, has completed the copying of the record in the case of Hugh McLaughlin v. Hugh McLaughlin's heirs, in which an appeal will be asked. The record contains over three hundred pages of legal-cap paper.

—An otter was seen near the bridge last Sunday, recklessly exhibiting a pelt worth from eight to ten dollars. Several men are hunting him. There is a theory among trappers, that the fur of an otter will turn a bullet.

—At the junction of the Indian Draft and the western prong, the remains of a person were found some years since, supposed to have been those of a French officer who led the Indians in one of their raids into this region, and most probably about 1764. He paused to light his pipe by striking with flint and steel, and was shot by a scout who was watching the course the Indians were likely to take.

—Mrs. Mary Ruckman, on the Indian Draft, has a pillow case made of material woven about 1780. It was first used as a dress by old Mrs. Brown when a little girl. It is of cotton, picked, carded, and spun on the little wheel. The old people say that cotton just from the pod was more difficult to pick than wool full of burs. It must have been a tiresome task.

—There is an old outfit for making saltpetre in the cave from which Swago creek rises. It was used in the manufacture of gunpowder. Jonathan McNeil had a gunpowder factory in the old stone house near Withrow McClintic's mill. It was in operation during the war of 1812. As there was a blockade, powder became scarce, and as this was a hunting country, and a country infested with Indians, it was absolutely necessary to have powder.

—Mrs. Julia Sharp, at Edray, has an heirloom in her possession that is very interesting and is highly prized. It is a double bedspread, and was woven in colors and figures. The material is cotton and wool; picked, sheared, carded, and spun by hand, and then doubled and twisted. It has been in use about a hundred years, and shows but little sign of wearing out. It was woven by one Henry Jones, a professional weaver, who had the stone house at the Swago mill built to color and weave in. Either side of the fabric is the right side, and so it may be equivalent to two spreads in one. Mr. Jones died in Nicholas County, about 1862, at a very advanced age. He wove with sixteen treadles.

—In looking over our exchanges and reflecting upon the state of affairs over our country as presented in the journals, the writer feels that the people of this county are those whose lines have fallen in about as pleasant places as the earth affords at present. While we read of Legislatures appropriating hundreds of thousands to purchase seed grain for farmers, and food for hungry people, and how people in towns go to bed to keep warm for want of light and fuel, when so far as known to us our people have a plenty of the necessities of life, many of its comforts, and not a few of its luxuries. Talking over hard times, and brooding over low prices, and short profits, all seem uncalled for. Our neighbors while seated before a blazing fire, with barn, granary, and meat-tub well supplied, are the most fortunate of people, in spite of sixty-cent-wheat, cheap corn, and two-dollar sheep with horses to throw in.

—Maple sugar is being made in those camps from which the snow has disappeared. There is very little to be made in the manufacture of maple-sugar at ten cents a pound, and it is only because thrifty people are used to making every edge cut that its manufacture is carried on at all. When the season is over they have perhaps fifty dollars worth of sugar and molasses, to say nothing of the beer, and are not behind with their other work. In fact they have that where they would have had nothing. The exposure attending the work causes a lot of sickness. The ground generally wet and sloppy; up late at night; frozen on one side and hot on the other by the fire; scalding yourself, or putting your eyes out with the smoke; these are some of the discomforts of the sugar-camp.

—There was a row on the street last Tuesday. Two young fellows got their fighting blood up, and after indulging in some highly seasoned personal remarks, came to blows. They fell in the mud, and the top man was pounding the under man. Quite a number of men got implicated and all of us bystanders seemed to have a dark suspicion that the nearest man was an adversary. A fight was nearly caused by one part wishing to separate them and another who said to let them fight it out. R. K. Burns, Deputy-Sheriff, pulled them apart and dispelled the warlike appearance, and the majesty of the law was upheld. One man was covered with blood and glory. No harm was done, and the bruises will just loosen the skin and make the boys grow.

—One of the most aggravating things in a small way occurred to some of our town friends last week, in connection with their bank. The trouble must first be ascribed to the irregularities of the mail service which has plunged us in a hopeless state of dependency for the past week or so. This firm was notified that they had a note of forty-odd dollars in bank due Feb. 24—27. They sent the money in time, but it was delayed one day, and the bank received it on the 28th. The note had been protested and was sent back for collection, and on Saturday of that week process was served on the firm for the full amount of the note plus the protest fees. This made two sets of costs which will about knock the profits off the transaction for which the note was given.

—There was a six-foot raise in the river last week. The ice was well rotted before the flood, and so did not do any damage. Several rafts went by with their customary crew, and perhaps a horse or two to lighten the walk back. Captain Smith is down the river and has been driving no doubt.

—In front of the original Robert Moore dwelling, traces of which may be yet seen, are two Lombardy poplars, planted there nearly a century since, and perhaps the first of their kind west of the Alleghenies. Though from sunny Italy, these trees flourished luxuriantly until a few years since.

—E. H. Moore & Co., of Academy, inform us that last Saturday, after a certain special advertisement was placed for the week in our paper that they did a very much increased business their cash sales alone amounting to over sixty dollars.

KILLED!

HAM COLLINS KILLED BY CHAS. SLAVIN

Violent Death of a Noted Character.

Ham Collins, the hero of a thousand escapades, the fiddler, and noted for the number of scrapes through which he has come unharmed, came to his death from a shot from a Winchester rifle in the hands of Charles Slavin, on Cheat Mountain, in the upper part of Pocahontas County, last Saturday evening about dusk.

Green Bank district is without a magistrate, so Justice William H. Grose, of Huntersville, was sent for to hold an inquest, Slavin being arrested charged with the crime.

THE JURY.
A jury consisting of the following gentlemen was empaneled at the home of the dead man: G. D. Oliver, W. A. Gladwell, John H. Ralston, J. P. Wooddell, P. H. Hamilton, and C. O. Arbogast, with Dr. L. L. Little attending physician.

THE EVIDENCE.
The evidence given below is the substance of the testimony of Jasper Varner, Frank Houchin, Lee Collins, and Peter Kramer: It seems that Ham Collins, Lee Collins, Jasper Varner, and Peter Kramer were coming from Cheat Bridge down the mountain to the Slavin Cabin, where Ham lived. Ham, who had been drinking, stopped to talk to a man near Robert Kerr's place. Jasper Varner went back to join him, the crowd having passed on, and about the time they overtook their companions, Varner and Collins came to blows. Collins beat and abused Varner terribly; nearly biting his nose off, for one thing. This was about a quarter of a mile from Ham's house, and near Charles Slavin's home. Slavin heard the fuss and took his Winchester rifle and started for the scene, thinking that it was his brother that who was in a fight. He met Varner, who was coming away beaten and bruised, and who told him what was up. Slavin went on and talked to Ham in a friendly manner, until Kramer said, "Do you take up Collins' and Varner's fight?" Slavin said, "Don't know that I am," and took his gun off his shoulder. It seems that the whole crowd, and Frank Houchin, who had come up with Slavin, joined in a struggle to disarm Slavin. In the effort, the struggling group went over the roadside, and the gun was discharged, the bullet entered the ground. Slavin then wrenched the gun away, and jumping aside a few steps, shot Ham, who was standing motionless a few yards away. Ham said "I'm killed," and fell, and as he fell, Slavin fired again. Both balls took effect in the left side and passed entirely through the body, one near the heart. Slavin went to Grat Slavin's, and Ham was carried home.

SLAVIN'S EVIDENCE.
The testimony of the prisoner varied in some particulars. He said that he took his gun down to throw it aside and fight Kramer with his fist, claiming he had insulted him by his words. That when they tried to disarm him he resisted, and that when he found himself free, he mechanically threw a ball in his Winchester, and that Ham started towards him with a drawn dirk. There was no knife of this kind found at the place of the tragedy.

THE VERDICT.
"We the jury find that the deceased Ham Collins comes to his death from two shots from a Winchester rifle in the hands of Charles Slavin."

The dead man was buried at the Hoover graveyard on Tuesday. He was a man aged about fifty years, of immense frame, and has had a checkered career. It is said that he saved the life of Gen. C. O. Watts, of Charleston, at one time by catching on his arm a blow aimed at Gen. Watts' head. His arm was broken. He had a row in Randolph county, broke jail and came to Pocahontas. He went to Bath on a trip in 1893, had a big fight at the Hot Springs, was arrested and broke jail there. He came back and moved from Clover Creek to Cheat Mountain. He leaves several children.

Charles Slavin is a native of Pocahontas, and is quite a young man. He was tried a few years ago for cutting a man, but was cleared of the charge of felony on the grounds of self defense. He is in jail at Huntersville.

As usual in such cases there is much feeling aroused. Slavin is well connected and well liked and many who are in a position to judge assert his action was justifiable.

All the country has said that there was sure to be blood spilt between Collins and the Slavin's, and Slavin was once held up by Collins. The evidence given to our readers this week is against Slavin but the public will do well to bear in mind that there are two sides to this case and the prisoner has much evidence in his favor not yet produced.

Public sentiment is with Slavin.

Personal.

Mrs. Dr. Patterson, of Huntersville, has been quite a sufferer much of the winter from rheumatic troubles; much relieved, however, at present.

Miss Jones closed her pleasant school at Mr. Rueker's, and returned to her eastern Virginia home last week.

Mr. Louis Yeager taught the public school at Huntersville quite acceptably to his patrons, and has finished his term. He is now canvassing for an interesting book.

Aunt Betsy McLaughlin is about well from her severe fall upon the icy ground at Mr. C. L. Moore's.

Mr. William Anderson from Pendleton County, passed through Marlinton last Thursday in search of Greenbrier cattle.

Miss Lucy Curry, of Huntersville, is visiting friends in Hillsboro and vicinity.

Wyllis McComb has sold his property on Cumming's Creek, and thinks of locating at Huntersville.

The concert of sacred music at Driscoll was well attended, led by Professors Friel, Herold, and White.

A recent letter from Colonel Turk gives information of his conferring with parties with a view to a high school in the public buildings about to be vacated.

Calls were made at this office on court-day by Messrs. Isaac McNeel, William Gibson, George W. Callison, Robert Gibson, A. W. McNeel, and John R. Moore. All having an eye to the necessities of the editor.

Perry Buzzard was here on business last week.

W. A. Bratton, attorney, and E. L. Holt, Esq., returned from a business trip to Baltimore.

Capt. C. B. Swecker attended court, and auctioneered the sale of the Crummett building.

Mr. Crook, of Toledo, Ohio, was here to contract for furniture for the new court-house.

Mr. Manly met the court as usual.

Rev. Charles Fultz and wife were in Marlinton last Saturday.

Miss Mary Brown, of Green Bank, is visiting her brother, S. L. Brown, Esq., and her numerous friends in Marlinton.

Prize Sayings.

London *Tit-bits* offered a prize for "bulls." The first one here presented was deemed the best. The others were also selected for their excellence.

A certain politician, lately condemning the government for their recent policy concerning the income tax, is reported to have said: "They'll keep cutting the wool off the sheep that lays the golden eggs until they pump it dry."

An Irishman, in the midst of a tirade against landlords and capitalists, declared that "If these men were landed on an uninhabited island, they wouldn't be there an hour before they would have their hands in the pockets of the naked savages."

Only a few weeks ago a lecturer gave utterance to the following: "All along the untrod paths of the future we can see the hidden footprints of an unseen Hand."

"We pursue the shadow, the bubble bursts, and leaves the ashes in our hands!"

Dentistry: Dr. J. H. Weymouth will be at Valley Head March 15th, and remain 3 days. Mingo, 19th, 4 days. Edray, 25th, 5 days. Marlinton, April 1st, 4 days. Buckeye (Clark Kellisons), 5th, 4 days. Mill Point, 10th, 4 days. Huntersville 15th, 3 days. Green Bank 19th, 3 days. And will be prepared to attend to all operations in dentistry, 4t.

—The road between this place and Ronceverte is muddy beyond all belief.

FOOTBALL

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MATCH WITH MINGO.

To be Played Saturday March 16.

The long expected match with the English team from Mingo, Randolph County, will be played at Marlinton on March 16th. The public is invited to attend. Especial preparations will be made for ladies to see the game comfortably. The names, position, and weight of the players is here given.

THE TEAMS.

Mingo	Marlinton
FORWARD	
B. B. Earnshaw, 132, J. H. Wilson, 166,	
RIGHT WINGS	
Arthur Lawson, 132, A. Price, (C.) 150,	
Earnest Hedden, 130, N. R. Price, 143,	
LEFT WINGS	
H. P. Earnshaw, 140, L. Yeager, 152,	
S. E. L. Grews, (C.) 141, T. Ricketts, 145,	
HALF BACKS	
E. Brooke-Hunt, 165, J. Smith, 186,	
Richard C. Hales, 165, J. Yeager, 166,	
George Tompkins, 148, F. Anderson, 170,	
FULL BACKS	
O. K. Dakers, 142, W. Yeager, 175,	
Piatt Marshall, 170, W. McLaughlin, 185,	
GOAL-KEEPERS	
R. Tuke, 192, H. Bird, 180,	
[Umpire, A. N. Other, Esq.]	
Marlinton reserve: Pat Simmons and Blake King.	

Mingo sends the above weights as the fighting weight of each member, with the motto: "England expects every man to do his duty."

Armstrong and Cumberland.

Nothing has ever created deeper interest through the county generally than the arrest and incarceration of the negroes, Armstrong and Cumberland, charged with the robbery of Capt. Edgar. As usual the State's attorney is getting his evidence in shape before court. It is a little way that he has and he generally surprises those busy-bodies who claim to know more about such cases than any body else, when such a case is to be disposed of, and who come in with their officious and idiotic suggestions. There will be some strong evidence produced on the part of the State, but as it takes the strongest evidence to cause our juries to bring in a verdict of guilty, it is foolish to hazard opinion as to the likelihood, of their conviction or acquittal.

DEPOSITIONS

Some depositions were taken by County Clerk S. L. Brown, of Armstrong and Cumberland, last week to be read as evidence in case pending in Marietta, O.

It seems that a room had been rented to these two men and others, and that gaming was carried on in that room. The owner of the room being on trial for allowing gaming to be carried on in property owned by him is endeavoring to prove that it was without his knowledge or consent. The testimony was that any gaming carried on in that room was kept from such owner's knowledge.

ON THE DEFENSIVE.

The writer had an interview with Armstrong. He is undoubtedly a very intelligent man. He is a fluent speaker and he sets forth his innocence in a most convincing manner. He consents to the publication of the following points, as he relies on them as a part of his defense. There is other important evidence in his favor which he does not wish to be made public. The robbery was on the night of January 4th, 1894, at about 8 p. m., thirty-two miles from the railroad. He claims that the journey to Marietta, O., his home, could not be made in less than thirty-six hours. He has a letter from a female student of the colored college at Marietta, stating that she returned to school on the 5th, and saw him that day. She fixes the date by her school report. A barber states that he saw him on the 5th, fixing the date by the sale of his barber-shop. Armstrong's friends have examined the books of the American Express Company, and write him that he had signed the receipt of a package on January 5th at their office. They have also seen a Justice of the Peace who will testify that Armstrong paid him some money on a mortgage about the 5th or 6th.

Attorneys John W. Stephenson and H. S. Rucker are the defendants' counsel.

Notice.

All parties indebted to the undersigned, will please pay up by the 1st of April, as longer indulgence will not be given. Take heed and save cost.

BRIGHT & CALLISON.